

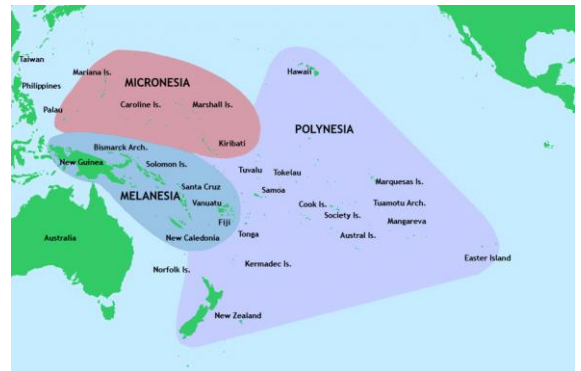
Australia



Parcs et forêts

Oceania

- Thousands of islands combine to form the Oceania region mostly covering the Central and South Pacific Ocean.
- Oceania also includes three island regions: Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia (including the U.S. state of Hawaii).



Australia

- Australia is the smallest continent and the largest island of the world. Hence, it is also called 'Island continent'. It comprises of mainland Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea, New Britain, and small neighbouring islands.
- Australia is the smallest continent and one of the largest countries on Earth, lying between the Pacific and Indian oceans in the Southern Hemisphere.
- It was discovered in 1770 by James Cooke, who was an English sailor. It lies completely in the Southern Hemisphere.



- It is surrounded by:
- The Timor Sea in the North-West
- The Gulf of Carpentaria in the North,
- Great barrier reef in the north-east &
- Great Australian bight in the south

- The Tropic of Capricorn passes through the middle of this continent.
- Two-third part of Australia is covered with plateau which is known as 'Western Plateau', where rainfall is very scanty and deserts have developed.
- There is a Coral Reef along the eastern coast of Australia. It is known as 'Great Barrier Reef'. It is more than 1900 km long.



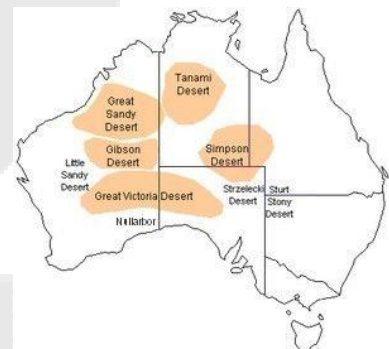
- Australia has been called “the Oldest Continent,” “the Last of Lands,” and “the Last Frontier.”
- Asia is the continent nearest to Australia. The nearest point on the mainland of Asia is Singapore To the west of Australia, Indian Ocean, to the south, the icy shore of Antarctica to the south-east is New Zealand. To the north-west is the continent of Asia.
- Mt. Kosciuszko is the highest peak in Australia.
- Mt Cook is the highest peak of New Zealand.

- It has 6 states and 2 centrally administered territories.
- Western Australia
- Queensland
- South Australia
- New South Wales
- Victoria
- Tasmania



Desert

- Major Desert: Great Victoria Desert, Great Sandy Desert, Tanami Desert, Simpson Desert, Gibson Desert, Little Sandy Desert, Strzelecki Desert, Sturt Stony Desert, Tirari Desert



Strait

- Bass Strait: separating the island state of Tasmania from the Australian mainland.
- Torres Strait: The Torres Strait, also known as Zenadh Kes, is a strait between Australia and the Melanesian island of New Guinea.



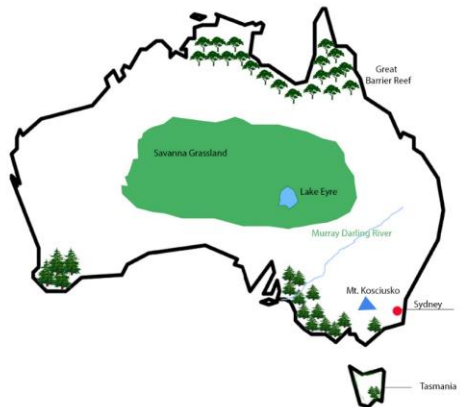
Drainage System

- Australia has low average rainfall.
- Being a hot dry country the rate of evaporation is high. So there is very little water left to flow like a river to the sea.
- As a result of this, the total Australian continent is mainly drained by two of the largest drainage basins Murray and Darling and an inland lake is also found which is known as Lake Eyre Basin. Which accounts for an area for over 1 million square kilometers.
- River Murray starts from the Snowy Mountains of the Great Dividing Range.
- River Murray is the longest river in Australia. Waikato River is the longest river in New Zealand.



- UPPER DARLING RIVER
- DARLING RIVER
- MURRAY RIVER

- Lake Taupo is a crater lake and one of the beautiful lakes in New Zealand which was formed by the violent volcanic eruption. Lake Eyre, officially named Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre, is a large salt water lake in Australia.
- Its unique flora and fauna include hundreds of kinds of eucalyptus trees and the only egg-laying mammals on Earth, the platypus and echidna.

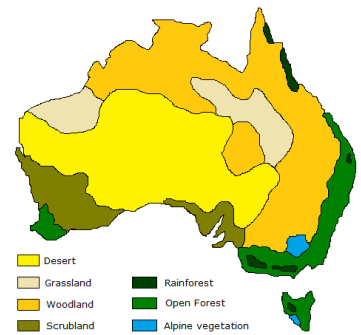


Climatic zones

- There are generally four types of wind that prevail over Australian continent throughout the year which affect the climate of the little continent to a large extent.
- The northern section of Australia has a more tropical influenced climate, hot and humid in the summer, and quite warm and dry in the winter, while the southern parts are cooler with mild summers and cool, sometimes rainy winters.

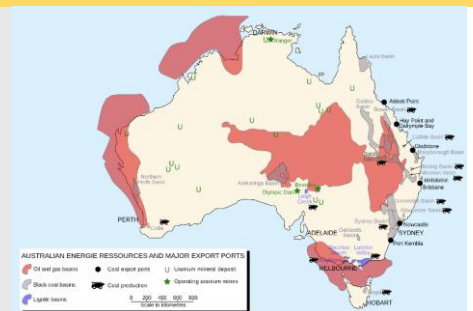
Natural Vegetation

- There are two types of grasslands are found in the continent-tropical and temperate. These are called 'Savana'and 'Downs'respectively.
- In the Savanna grasslands, Salt Brush and Mulga bushes are found. Also, Eucalyptus trees grow here and there in the Downs. Hence, the Downs are called the 'Parkland of Australia'.



Minerals

- Australia has the world's largest known uranium reserve. 10% of gold reserve of world is here. Argyle diamond mine is one of the largest in the world. It has valuable pink and red diamonds.



Other Facts:

- Time Zone: There are three main time zones. It is equal to Greenwich Meantime plus 10 hours (GMT +10).
- Major Cash Crops: Coffee, cocoa, tea, sugarcane, cotton, and spices
- Port City: New Castle, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.
- Sheep rearing of merino breed is done as they give high quality wool.

Largest number of sheep in the world.

Largest producer of **bauxite** in the world.

Industries- iron and steel, agricultural machinery, motor vehicles, electrical goods, chemical, ships, etc.

Metals- Uranium (Kalgoorlie and Koolgardie), Lead, Zinc, Silver and Manganese

Original Inhabitants. Aborigines.

Question:

Which of the following imaginary line passes through the middle of the continent?

- A. Tropic of Capricorn
- B. Tropic of Cancer
- C. Equator
- D. 0 Degree longitude

The name Australia is derived from the Latin word "Australis" which means _____.

- A. "northern"
- B. "western"
- C. "southern"
- D. "Reverina"

Which of the following is the highest peak in Australia?

- A. Mawson Peak
- B. Mt. Townsend
- C. Mt Cook
- D. Mt. Kosciusko

Who among the following discovered Australia for the first time in 1770?

- A. James Cook
- B. Matthew Flinders
- C. Stephen Hawkins
- D. Vasco de Gama

Which of the following grassland in Australia is called as 'Parkland of Australia'?

- A. Savanna
- B. Downs
- C. Steppes
- D. Pampas

How many time zones are in Australia?

- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

Which of the following animal in Australia is called 'Laughing Jacks'?

- A. Kangaroo
- B. Kookaburra
- C. Koala
- D. Emu

Answer :

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. C
7. B